

32692

Customer Number

Patent
Case No.: 54135US011

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: BOWERS, JOHN L.

DUE DATE(S)

ATTORNEY

DOCKETED

Application No.: 09/986346

Group Art Unit: 3753

Filed: November 8, 2001

Examiner: John Rivell

Title: UNI-DIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

SUBMISSION OF SUPPLEMENTAL REISSUE DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR § 1.8(a)]

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306.

May 23, 2005

Date

Signed by: Susan M. Decko

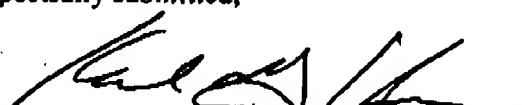
Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 4, 2005, applicants submitted an Amendment and Response on April 20, 2005. In that Amendment, applicants indicated that a Supplemental Reissue Declaration would be submitted to overcome the remaining rejection under 35 USC § 251. That Declaration has now been signed by the inventor and is attached to this cover letter. In view of the changes made to the application in the Amendment and Response filed April 20, 2005 and in view of the submission of the attached Supplemental Reissue Declaration, applicants believe that all issues outstanding in this application have been eliminated. Accordingly, this application may now proceed to allowance.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


 Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900
 Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

May 23, 2005
 Date

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
 3M Innovative Properties Company
 Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

32692
Customer Number

Patent
Case No.: 54135US011

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REISSUE APPLICATION:

First Named Inventor: **BOWERS, JOHN L.**

Application No.: **09/986346** Filed: **November 8, 2001**

Reissue of Patent No.: **5,687,767**

Title: **UNI-DIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE**

**SUPPLEMENTAL REISSUE APPLICATION
DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY BY THE INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor of the subject matter that is described and claimed in U.S. Patent 5,687,767, issued November 18, 1997, for which a reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled UNI-DIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE, the specification of which:

is attached hereto.
 was filed on November 8, 2001 as reissue application number 09/986,346 and was amended on November 8, 2001, July 22, 2002, July 31, 2002, October 16, 2003, December 6, 2004, and April 20, 2005. Reissue application number 09/986,346 is a continuation of reissue application number 09/442,082 (now U.S. Patent RE 37,974).

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I believe the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid for the reasons

by reason of a defective specification or drawing.
 by reason of the patentee claiming more or less than the patentee had the right to claim in the patent.
 by reason of other errors.

At least one error upon which reissue is based is described below:

In claims 1 and 10 by reciting that both "said root end of the cantilevered flexible flap and the respective sealing surface that contacts the cantilevered flexible flap at said root end have a fixed curvature in a direction transverse to said longitudinal axis", applicant believes that the claim is narrower than required by the detail

Application No.: 09/986346

Case No.: 54135US011

description and the prior art since only the flap needs to have the transverse curvature to achieve the benefits of the invention.

All errors corrected in this reissue application arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 (a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Application No.	Country	Filing Date	Priority Claimed
9515986	Great Britain	August 4, 1995	Yes

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No.	Filing Date

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application No.	Filing Date	Status
09/442,082	November 15, 1999	U.S. Patent RE 37,974E
08/686,839	November 18, 1997	U.S. Patent 5,687,767

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint Practitioners at Customer Number 32692 my attorneys and/or agents with full powers (including the powers of appointment, substitution, and revocation) to prosecute this application and any division, continuation, continuation-in-part

Application No.: 09/986346

Case No.: 54135US011

reexamination, or reissue thereof, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

32692**32692**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

The mailing address and the telephone number of the above-mentioned attorneys and/or agents are that of the Customer Number. Inquires regarding this application can be made to:

Attention: Hanson, Karl G.
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC § 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

[Signature]

Inventor Name: John Lawrence Bowers
Residence: High Wycombe, Great Britain
Citizenship: Great Britain
Post Office: 129 Penn Road, Hazelmore
Address: High Wycombe, Great Britain

26M April 2005

Date